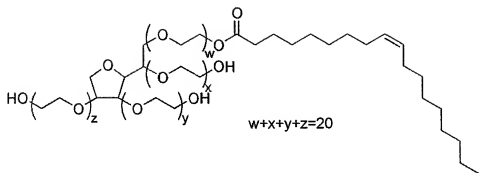


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings or claims in the application.

1. (Previously presented) A composition comprising (i) *Mycobacterium w* and/or constituent(s) thereof as an adjuvant, (ii) an antigen, wherein the antigen is not *Mycobacterium w* and/or constituent(s) thereof, and (iii) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the composition results in an enhanced antigen associated immune response of the antigen compared to a composition where component (i) is absent.
2. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed claim 1, further comprising other adjuvants.
3. (Currently amended) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the *Mycobacterium w* ~~comprises~~ is a killed *Mycobacterium w*.
4. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 3, wherein the killed *Mycobacterium w* is killed by heat, radiation, preferably by autoclaving.
5. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the constituent(s) of *Mycobacterium w* is/are obtained by sonication.
6. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the constituent(s) of *Mycobacterium w* is/are obtained by high pressure cell fractionator.
7. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the constituent(s) of *Mycobacterium w* is/are obtained by osmotic pressure gradient.
8. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the constituent(s) of *Mycobacterium w* is/are obtained from the *Mycobacterium w* by extraction.

9. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the constituent(s) of *Mycobacterium w* is/are extracted from the *Mycobacterium w* by organic solvents.
10. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the constituent(s) of *Mycobacterium w* is/are extracted using solvents selected from the group consisting of chloroform, ethanol, methanol, acetone, phenol, isopropyl alcohol, acetic acid, urea, and hexane.
11. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein the constituent(s) of *Mycobacterium w* is/are obtained by enzymatic treatment.
12. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the constituent(s) of *Mycobacterium w* is/are obtained by using enzyme lyticase and/or pronase.
13. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the constituent(s) of *Mycobacterium w* is/are substantially water insoluble.
14. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the *Mycobacterium w* is a non-pathogenic, fast growing, cultivable, atypical *Mycobacterium*, with biochemical properties and growth characteristics substantially similar those belonging to Runyons group IV class of *Mycobacteria*.
15. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the *Mycobacterium w* is urease negative, does not hydrolyse a compound of the formula below, does not produce niacin, and provides positive response to nitrate reduction test,



16. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the *Mycobacterium* and/or constituents thereof are mixed, formulated, conjugated, primed, fused and/or linked with the antigen.

17. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the antigen is selected from the group consisting of one or more peptides, one or more polypeptides, one or more cells, one or more cell extracts, one or more polysaccharides, one or more polysaccharide conjugates, one or more lipids, one or more glycolipids, one or more carbohydrates, one or more proteins, one or more viruses, one or more viral extracts, and one or more nucleic acids.

18. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the antigen(s) is isolated from an infectious agent selected from the group consisting of virus, bacterium, fungus and parasites.

19. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the antigen(s) is a tumor associated antigen.

20. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the antigen is a tumor specific antigen.

21. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the antigen(s) is an allergen.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously presented) A composition containing a pharmaceutically effective amount of the composition as claimed in claim 1 sufficient to prevent diseases in mammal.

24. (Previously presented) A composition containing a pharmaceutically effective amount of the composition as claimed in claim 1 sufficient to decrease morbidity and mortality associated with disease.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously presented) *Mycobacterium w* and/or a constituent thereof as an adjuvant to an antigen.